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REMARKS

This election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 to 8, 10 to 12, and 20 to 22, as amended, are so linked as to form a single inventive concept/special technical feature, as hereinafter discussed, and/or have unity of invention, as provided by 37 CFR 1.475(b)(2), and that therefore the restriction requirement should be withdrawn as to these claims.

The Examiner states that the single inventive concept and special technical feature comprises an enclosure including an ozone generator mounted thereto, but that U.S. patent 6,134,806 to Dhaemers discloses this feature as evidenced by the "X" located on the International Search Report. Applicant respectfully disagrees and notes that, nevertheless, the PCT examiner did not impose a lack of unity requirement. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Dhaemers must be examined irrespective of the "X" to determine whether it discloses a single inventive concept/special technical feature which encompasses claims 1 to 8, 10, and 20 to 22, as amended, and Applicant hereafter provides the following analysis in that regard.

It is respectfully submitted that the single inventive concept/special technical feature which encompasses claims 1 to 8, 10, and 20 to 22, as amended, comprises an enclosure which is portable for carrying in a personal vehicle and which includes an ozone generator disposed within and mounted thereto for descending items within the enclosure.

Dhaemers discloses in Figs. 1 to 23 thereof portable sport and equipment bags, and it is said (at col. 9, line 66, to col. 10, line 2, thereof) that the bags can have an upright or vertical orientation having tops that include hanger bars to hold

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the bags on a fixed rod or support. An external ozone generator, illustrated at 90 in Fig. 1 thereof, is connected by a hose to the bag, which has a zippered closable opening. Also disclosed (beginning at col. 6, line 42) with reference to Figs. 16 to 23 is a modified bag with a similarly external ozone generator, illustrated at 179. Being "external," these ozone generators 90 and 179 cannot be said to be disposed within enclosures.

At col. 6, lines 38 to 41, it is stated that a separate ozone producing unit (not provided with a reference numeral) located in the bag chamber can be used to generate ozone. This "ozone producing unit" is not otherwise shown or described in Dhaemers, and thus Dhaemers does not disclose it as being mounted to an enclosure.

Dhaemers also discloses in Figs. 24 to 29 thereof what is called an "ozone deodorizer" (col. 8, line 13, thereof), which is designated by reference numeral 200. This "ozone deodorizer" is described as an ozone generator unit and is shown or disclosed to have Velcro or other anchoring means on the back of the case, and a male electrical plug and the Velcro anchors match in location to a female electrical receptacle and Velcro anchors mounted on a surface of a blower (not designated by a reference numeral) used to provide air for a portable dryer (see col. 8, lines 26 to 31, the second full paragraph of col. 9, and reference numerals 218 and 219 in Figs. 25, 27, and 29 thereof). The ozone-rich air provided by this ozone generator unit is said to deodorize items being dried in the dryer. As so used, this ozone generator unit cannot be said to be disposed within the dryer.

It is further stated (col. 8, lines 53 to 58) that the "ozone generator unit" can be used in other drying units and have a similar receptacle and anchor system to power and turn on the ozone generator unit when the dryer is running, but there is no

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disclosure that it is disposed within the dryer.

It is further stated that the "ozone generator unit" can be "placed inside" sports bags examples of which are shown in Figs. 1 and 16 thereof (see col. 8, lines 58 to 61, thereof). It is further discussed that this "ozone generator unit" has a rotating hook used to retain it in a closet or room or can be hung up in a locker such as used in a gym or spa (see col. 8, lines 62 to 66, the first full paragraph of col. 9, and reference numeral 216 in Figs. 24 to 27 thereof). It is further discussed that this "ozone generator unit" has a clip to anchor the unit to flat supports such as car visors (see col. 9, lines 3 and 4, the third full paragraph of col. 9, and reference numeral 221 in Figs. 26 and 27 thereof). The "ozone generator unit" is also disclosed as having Velcro strips, illustrated at 218 and 219 (see col. 9, second full paragraph), the hook, Velcro strips, and clip being said to allow the deodorizer 200 to be used in different locations without changing the panel (see col. 9, fourth full paragraph). It is further stated that, in addition to its use with dryers, there are many uses and applications for a "portable ozone generator unit" (see col. 9, lines 10 to 13, thereof). Fig. 29 is described as showing the ozone deodorizer located within an air blower, and a fan discharges air and ozone into a hose which can be connected to a dryer (see col. 9, last full paragraph).

Dhaemers does not disclose or teach or suggest the ozone generator of Figs. 24 to 29 thereof as being mounted to its bag or other enclosure for descenting items therein. The term "mounted" is defined in Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, Second College Edition, as "fixed on or in the proper backing, support, setting, etc." and defines "fixed" as "firmly placed or attached; not movable." Thus, Dhaemers does

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not disclose or suggest attaching its "ozone producing unit" of Figs. 24 to 29 thereof to the bag - only that it can be placed within the bag. There is nothing disclosed as part of the bag of Dhaemers for attachment of the Velcro material, hook, or clip of the "ozone generator unit". Dhaemers instead teaches other purposes therefor, i.e., the Velcro material for attachment to a blower (not to the bag itself or an enclosure for descending items therein), the hook for merely hanging (not mounting) in a closet or room or locker, and the clip for attachment to a car visor (a car is not a portable enclosure). Since the hook cannot be said to firmly place or attach and cannot be said to be not movable, it cannot come within the meaning of "mounted." Thus, Dhaemers does not disclose or teach or suggest disposing an ozone generator "within" and "mounting" to a portable enclosure for carrying in a personal vehicle for descending items in the enclosure, as provided by the present invention, so that it may be positioned, as designed, in a favorable air flow location and not just haphazardly placed in the portable enclosure and so that it can endure dropping and jarring and otherwise rough handling of the portable enclosure.

Claims 10 to 12 are processes of use of the product claimed in claims 1 to 8 and 20 to 22 and thereby have unity of invention therewith, as provided by 37 CFR 1.475(b)(2).

It is accordingly respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn as to claims 1 to 8, 10 to 12, and 20 to 22, as amended, since they have been shown to encompass a single inventive concept/special technical feature and/or have unity of invention, as provided by 37 CFR 1.475(b)(2).

It is moreover respectfully submitted that these claims 1 to 8, 10 to 12, and 20 to 22, as amended, are patentable for the

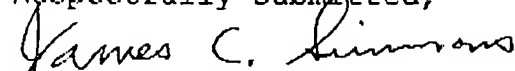
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reasons discussed above and as more fully provided in the remarks accompanying the previously filed Preliminary Amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application be passed to issue.

If it would aid in advancing this application to issue, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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